

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 33

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2010

INTRODUCED BY

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A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING A STUDY OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF ENACTING A DOMESTIC
PARTNERSHIP LAW IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, over many years, the legislature of the state of
New Mexico has considered many versions of a bill creating a
domestic partnership in law; and

WHEREAS, the many and various versions have in common the
need to amend much of the state's domestic affairs law and to
overhaul custody, paternity, inheritance, probate, guardianship
and other legal protections based on the legal recognition of a
same sex couple; and

WHEREAS, changing any one of the sections of law could
create new causes of action in the courts and, therefore, more
expenses for the courts; and

WHEREAS, changing any one of the sections of law

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1 pertaining to abuse, neglect or domestic violence could impose
2 new demands on law enforcement personnel across the state and,
3 therefore, more expense to law enforcement agencies; and

4 WHEREAS, requiring all agencies whose authorizing statutes
5 are affected to change and reprint their rules and handbooks
6 could cost the state more money; and

7 WHEREAS, changing the forms and affidavits for every
8 marriage in the state will affect every county; and

9 WHEREAS, besides the upheaval created by the change in
10 law, there may be many other unintended consequences that could
11 create increased expenses for the state;

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
13 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico legislative council be
14 requested to appoint a committee to study the financial effects
15 of implementing a domestic partnership law; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico legislative
17 council be requested to enlist the analysts of the legislative
18 finance committee and the attorneys of the legislative council
19 service, as well as to request involvement from the department
20 of finance and administration, to study the issue and project
21 state expenses for implementation of a domestic partnership
22 law; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee report to the
24 New Mexico legislative council by August 30, 2010 on its
25 conclusions and that copies of the resulting committee's report

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1 on its cost projections for implementation of a domestic
2 partnership bill be submitted to the governor and the co-chairs
3 of the New Mexico legislative council; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
5 transmitted to the governor and the co-chairs of the New Mexico
6 legislative council.

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